

02

FAIRVIEW LIBRARY REOPENS

03

NEW, DROUGHT RESILIENT WATER SUPPLY

05

CITY HALL MURAL PROJECT

# New Affordable Housing Opens In Santa Monica



## 114 AFFORDABLE HOMES AT THREE CITY-FUNDED PROPERTIES

**P**acific Landing, located at 2120 Lincoln Boulevard, opened this Fall and provides 37 newly constructed, 100% affordable apartments in the heart of Santa Monica. The building includes a mix of 1, 2, and 3-bedroom apartments for individuals and families making between 30% and 80% of Area Median Income with a preference for people that work and live in Santa Monica. Site amenities include a coffee shop on the ground floor, a community room, a central courtyard with a playground, landscaping, on-site laundry, and a roof deck. The construction is 100% electric including PV solar panels on the roof, energy star appliances, and EV charging stations. \$9.5 million in City funds from the Housing Trust Fund contributed to this building owned and operated by Community Corporation of Santa Monica. Patrick Tighe Architecture designed the building and Walton Construction brought the property to life.

“Santa Monica celebrates the opening of Pacific Landing, which leveraged more than \$9.5 million from the City’s Housing Trust Fund for construction,” said Santa Monica Mayor Sue Himmelrich. “This is yet another example of how Santa Monica is expanding affordable housing citywide. To the Santa Monicans who will move in, we say: ‘Welcome home!’”

“We’re thrilled to unveil this beautiful property in the heart of Santa Monica, offering those of modest means housing on the beautiful Westside of Los Angeles,” said Tara Barauskas, Executive Director of Community Corp. “We are confident that our Pacific Landing development will enable residents to build a bright future in a high-opportunity neighborhood and are thankful to everyone who helped materialize this vision.”

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

PARA  
OBTENER  
UNA COPIA  
EN ESPAÑOL  
DE SEASCAPE



### WELCOME NEWLY ELECTED COUNCIL MEMBERS

**Congratulations to our newly elected Council Members!**  
For more information, including the selection of the Mayor and Mayor Pro Tempore, visit: [santamonica.gov/news](http://santamonica.gov/news).

# 114 AFFORDABLE HOMES AT THREE CITY-FUNDED PROPERTIES (CONT'D)

Pacific Landing joins two other new affordable housing communities for Seniors 62+ that recently opened in Santa Monica:



**Greenway Meadows**, located at 1840 14th Street, opened in Spring 2021. Constructed by Community Corporation of Santa Monica with a \$10 million investment from the City of Santa Monica, this property is available for low-income seniors age 62+. Amenities include an elevator, air conditioning, energy efficient appliances, a community room, and a laundry room. All 38 apartments at Greenway Meadows are one bedroom and one bathroom and are required to be affordable for seniors earning low- to moderate-income in Santa Monica. Certain apartments are also designated for persons with mobility, vision, or hearing accessibility needs. For more information about Community Corp., please visit [communitycorp.org](http://communitycorp.org).



**Magnolia Villas** is an affordable housing community designed for low-income seniors. Opened in December 2021 and fully leased by January 2022, this new community is a four-story, 26,875-square-foot building located in an area rich with amenities and transportation options. Located at 1453 10th Street, the community includes 39 one-bedroom apartments, and an on-site staff unit, as well as a 2,000-square-foot outdoor courtyard and community garden, onsite laundry, bicycle storage, programming offices, and a community room. Each unit includes a private balcony. Developed by EAH Housing, Magnolia Villas was made possible by an \$11.4 million investment from the City of Santa Monica's Housing Trust Fund. Rents at Magnolia Villas are affordable to adults 62+ making between 30 percent and 60 percent of area median income.

Vacancies in these affordable apartments are filled from the City's Below Market Housing waitlist. For more information and to apply, visit [santamonica.gov/housing-apply](http://santamonica.gov/housing-apply).

Over **\$30 million of City funding from the Housing Trust Fund** contributed to the construction of these properties. Along with rent control, inclusionary zoning, and the programs of the Housing Authority,

allocation of resources from the City's Housing Trust Fund is one of the key drivers of preserving housing affordability levels in Santa Monica. These funds come primarily from revenue provided by the voter-approved sales tax, Measures GS and GSH. There are an additional **239 City-funded affordable new construction apartments** in the pipeline and all residences built will meet the City's new electrification requirement moving forward. Additional zero net energy retrofits to existing Santa Monica affordable housing properties were also completed recently.

In addition to City-funded affordable apartments, developers of new for-profit multifamily buildings are required to contribute to affordable housing in Santa Monica. There are approximately 1,200 affordable apartments provided by for-profit property owners throughout Santa Monica as required by the 1990 voter initiative Proposition R, making the creation of affordable housing mandatory as part of the development of market-rate apartment buildings.

## ADDITIONAL HOUSING UPDATES

The **American Rescue Plan**, signed by President Biden on March 11, 2021, provided \$6.35 billion in funds toward Santa Monica housing efforts. Over 100 new federal Emergency Housing Vouchers have been secured and issued to assist individuals and families who are experiencing homelessness. City Council approved the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan at the September 13, 2022 meeting. The plan proposes use of \$2.2 million in HOME-ARP funds for homeless prevention and supportive services. If the plan is approved by HUD, Council will consider awards to service providers in Spring of 2023, following a competitive process.

Over \$750,000 in City funds were made available to support one-time relief for households in rent-controlled apartments impacted by the general adjustment increase as part of the **Rent Control Adjustment Relief (RCAR)** Program. Over 580 households applied for this relief. 60% of applicants are above the age of 50. 31% of applicants were from 90405, 26% from 90403, and 23% from 90404. Individuals who are approved for the relief have now received notifications. Voucher holders that qualify for rent relief will be notified of their eligibility during their annual recertification process. For questions, contact [rcar@santamonica.gov](mailto:rcar@santamonica.gov).

The final draft of the 6th Cycle **Housing Element (2021-2029)** was approved by City Council on October 11, 2022, and the state certified it on October 14, 2022. This state required planning document demonstrates Santa Monica's capacity to meet the state mandate for housing units while furthering fair housing and emphasizing affordable housing production. For more information, visit [santamonica.gov/housing-element-update](http://santamonica.gov/housing-element-update).

For ongoing updates about our housing programs including opportunities to sign up for the Below Market Housing waitlist, scan the QR code.



## FAIRVIEW LIBRARY REOPENS

The City of Santa Monica celebrated the next phase of the library reopening plan with the reopening of the Fairview Branch Library on **November 1, 2022**, via a self-service model. Follow these steps to begin enjoying the Fairview Library:

1. Sign the Self-Service Hours Application and Agreement online at [smp1.org/SelfServiceHours](http://smp1.org/SelfServiceHours) or bring a valid photo ID and proof of address to the **Main Library, Montana Avenue, or Pico Branch**.
2. Allow two to three days for processing and to receive your welcome packet.
3. Head to the **Fairview Branch Library** and swipe your library card on **Tuesdays from 12 p.m. to 7 p.m.** and **Fridays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.** to pick up items on reserve, use the library space, access materials and resources, or use a computer!

There is also more to look forward to as the library expands its operating hours across all five locations, including new Saturday service at the Montana Avenue and Pico Branch libraries. The library continues to rebuild services and hours as funding is restored. For more information on library hours and locations, visit [smp1.org/reopening](http://smp1.org/reopening).

**We look forward to seeing you at the library!**



## LIBRARY HOURS

FULL SERVICE LOCATIONS. NEW & EXTENDED HOURS, INCLUDING SATURDAYS.

### MAIN

MONDAY	11 a.m. – 7 p.m.
TUESDAY	11 a.m. – 7 p.m.
WEDNESDAY	11 a.m. – 7 p.m.
THURSDAY	11 a.m. – 7 p.m.
FRIDAY	Closed
SATURDAY	Closed
SUNDAY	Closed

### PICO

MONDAY	Closed
TUESDAY	12 p.m. – 7 p.m.
WEDNESDAY	12 p.m. – 7 p.m.
THURSDAY	12 p.m. – 7 p.m.
FRIDAY	10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
SATURDAY	10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
SUNDAY	Closed

### MONTANA AVE

TUESDAY	12 p.m. – 7 p.m.
THURSDAY	12 p.m. – 7 p.m.
SATURDAY	10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

## OPEN+

PRE-AUTHORIZATION REQUIRED FOR **SELF-SERVICE** LOCATIONS BELOW.

SIGN UP HERE:

[smp1.org/selfservicehours](http://smp1.org/selfservicehours)

### FAIRVIEW

TUESDAY	12 p.m. – 7 p.m.
FRIDAY	10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

### OCEAN PARK

WEDNESDAY	12 p.m. – 7 p.m.
FRIDAY	10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

# DAVID WHITE MARKS ONE YEAR AS CITY MANAGER

**H**ello, Santa Monica.

As I mark one year as your City Manager, I want to share how grateful I am to serve this remarkable community.

I have enjoyed immersing myself in Santa Monica life and becoming part of the community – from celebrating with residents at *Americana in the Park* and the *Montana Avenue Art Walk* this summer to making regular connections shopping and running errands or while enjoying our glorious beach. There is so much that I love about life in Santa Monica.

In my short time with the City, it is notable that fostering a high quality of life is something every member of the City workforce is dedicated to, with a focus on our priority areas of a clean and safe Santa Monica, addressing homelessness, and an equitable economic recovery. We are making important strides in each of these areas, while also steadily, as economic conditions allow, implementing new programs, restoring services, and rebuilding many areas of City operations that were significantly cut in 2020.

Everything we do is made possible through the leadership of our City Council. Together, over the last year, our collective efforts have contributed to:

- Reopening City Hall;
- Deploying a comprehensive approach to addressing homelessness and its impacts that involves multiple departments and includes street outreach, increasing the supply of affordable housing, and strengthening regional capacity. We hope you've seen updates we've regularly shared on social media and here in *Seascope*;
- Responding quickly to rent increases for rent-controlled tenants by making \$750,000 in City funds available to eligible households who applied to the Rent Control Adjustment Relief Program;
- Listening to residents and businesses and advancing enhanced deployments and a more visible presence of our Santa Monica Police Department on the beach, on the pier, and in the downtown. Our Police Department is also deploying new technologies as a force multiplier and filling vacancies;
- Expanding Library access and hours at each location along with after school programs for local youth through Playground Club;
- Building infrastructure and adopting policies that reduce our impact on the environment;

- Staying focused on diversity, equity, and inclusion with our new Equity and Inclusion Manager leading the charge;
- Opening vibrant new public spaces like the Marine Park playground and community gardens, and making improvements at places like Gandara Park, where we leveled the baseball field so it can once again serve the community;
- Moving long-term initiatives forward such as the redevelopment of Memorial Park and advancing a strategy to address the mental and behavioral health needs of our community. Council has approved the Housing Element and development agreements with partners such as St. John's as they expand their campus and a Frank Gehry designed mixed-use project at Ocean and Santa Monica that consists of commercial development and cultural amenities that will support Downtown's economic recovery; and
- Continuing to be a place where people want to be and anchoring globally significant events here like the MLB All Star Week activation and Art Frieze at Santa Monica Airport in February 2023.



At the forefront of our efforts is a dedication to excellent customer service. The team that powers this City is knowledgeable, committed to exceptional service, and responsive to community needs. It has been an honor and privilege to get to know our workforce and see them in action.

I hope you'll get in touch with us. Download the Santa Monica app or call us at 311.

Thank you for your contributions to a thriving and vibrant Santa Monica.

I look forward to seeing you around town.

## A NEW, DROUGHT RESILIENT WATER SUPPLY TO COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE



Ultrafiltration system being lifted from the surface at the SWIP

**A** key component of the City's Sustainable Water Master Plan aimed at reducing the City's reliance on imported water supplies is nearing completion. The Sustainable Water Infrastructure Project, or SWIP, came online in Fall 2022 and adds a sustainable, drought resilient water supply to the City's water supply portfolio. At the surface, the SWIP may look like a parking lot at the City's Civic Center, but beneath the surface is a new 1.5 million gallon stormwater harvesting tank and a new 1 million gallon per day advanced water treatment facility that will convert stormwater and wastewater into purified water that will be used for irrigation, dual-plumbed buildings, and to recharge our local groundwater basin. The SWIP uses a six-step water purification process starting with removal of large solids and biological treatment followed by multiple filtration steps using ultrafiltration, cartridge filtration, and reverse osmosis before it is disinfected through ultraviolet light advanced oxidation and free chlorine disinfection. The purified water from SWIP not only meets water recycling standards but it exceeds all drinking water regulations as well to recharge our groundwater basin.

This first-of-its-kind water recycling facility in California could not have come at a better time as we are in the third year of a multi-year drought cycle. A ribbon cutting ceremony for SWIP was held on November 17, 2022, to mark this major step toward achieving the City's water self-sufficiency goal.

For more information about the SWIP, use this QR code.



For more information about other water self-sufficiency projects, use this QR code.



## HUMAN SERVICES GRANTS PROGRAM

**I**n September, the City of Santa Monica's Human Services Division released a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Human Services Grants Program (HSGP) to solicit applications for the FY 2023-27 HSGP funding cycle. The City will provide a total of \$8 million to selected nonprofits to address critical community needs and gaps in existing service systems. The HSGP currently funds 35 distinct programs run by 19 agencies, serving approximately 30,000 residents annually. HSGP programs aim to improve the welfare and quality of life of the City's youth and families, people with disabilities, seniors, survivors of domestic violence, low-income households, and people experiencing homelessness.

Qualifying non-profit organizations interested in applying for HSGP funding may do so by logging into or creating an OpenGov Procurement account. All proposals must be submitted through OpenGov. Applications are due by **3 p.m.** on **January 18, 2023**. HSGP funding recommendations will be presented to City Council in Spring 2023. Council will formally approve HSGP funding as part of budget adoption in June 2023. The FY 2023-27 HSGP funding cycle will start **July 1, 2023**. For more information, use this QR code.



**HUMAN SERVICES GRANTS PROGRAM**

**\$8M**  
ANNUALLY

---

**19**  
AGENCIES

**35**  
PROGRAMS

# SANTA MONICA CONTINUES TO PROSECUTE MISDEMEANOR CRIMES

**T**he City Attorney's Office (CAO), per the City Charter, prosecutes misdemeanor crimes that occur in the City. These crimes can vary from serious domestic violence, driving under the influence, assaults, and batteries, to camping in public, being in the park after dark, and urinating in public. Given the current filing trends in the LA County District Attorney's Office, many of these crimes would not be prosecuted without our involvement. Because the CAO prosecutes crimes that occur solely within the City of Santa Monica's boundaries, we are well-positioned to focus on the crimes that directly impact our residents, visitors, and businesses. We understand the local needs and concerns, as well as the values that make Santa Monica an exceptional place to live, work, and visit. Our mission is to prosecute the laws of the State and City in an ethical, transparent, equitable, and diligent manner.

In 2022, the CAO has seen a steep increase in case submissions, closely approaching pre-pandemic numbers. In 2022, thus far, the CAO has received 2,383 reports, including 392 reports for in-custody defendants, which must be reviewed within 48 hours. More than 178 submitted reports began as felony matters but were rejected by the LA County District Attorney's Office and sent to our office for misdemeanor filing consideration. In the months of August, September, and October, the CAO received more than 1,000 new reports.

Of the new reports received between January and September of 2022, the Criminal Prosecution Division filed 1,436 cases, or 70% of all submissions. These cases include:

- More than 150 assault and battery offenses
- 30 domestic battery offenses
- 120 driving under the influence incidents



- 95 resisting arrest violations
- 162 public intoxication offenses

The attorneys and staff in the Criminal Prosecution Division work tirelessly to uphold the laws of the City. The CAO is committed to a safe and thriving Santa Monica and is proud of its collaboration with the Santa Monica Police Department. To that end, the CAO is open to meeting with all stakeholders to improve the service we deliver to the City and to hear any concerns there may be about criminal prosecution.

For more information, please visit our website at [santamonica.gov/departments/city-attorneys-office](https://santamonica.gov/departments/city-attorneys-office) or call **(310)458-8336**.

# TRANSPORTATION AND MOBILITY UPGRADES IN PROGRESS



**H**ere's a recap of some of the upgrades happening around the City. For more information and to stay informed about these infrastructure enhancements that make getting around Santa Monica easier, visit [santamonica.gov/mobilityprojects](https://santamonica.gov/mobilityprojects).

## 17TH STREET

The transformation of 17th Street is well underway in the Pico Neighborhood. The section between Pico Boulevard and the Freeway is 90% complete with paving, lighting and electrical work remaining. The section between Olympic and Wilshire Boulevards will be the next focus area, with completion expected in March 2023.

## PICO BOULEVARD

Pedestrian enhancements on Pico Boulevard near Santa Monica College continue to advance. New ADA curb ramps are complete at each of the five project intersections. Additional streetlighting, bikeway, and pavement improvements will be ongoing until the project is completed in March 2023.

## 4TH STREET

Streetscape improvements on 4th Street began in October and are expected to conclude in May 2023. The improvements include ADA curb ramps, striped crosswalks, improved fencing on the freeway bridge, streetlights, and new landscaping in the median and parkways.

# NEW ZERO EMISSION BUILDING CODE AND EV CHARGER CODE ADOPTED



**I**n September, City Council adopted two policies that will drastically reduce the carbon footprint of new construction projects and facilitate EV adoption in Santa Monica beginning January 1, 2023. The Zero Emission Building Code requires new buildings to be all-electric. The EV Charger Reach Code, an amendment to the state Green Building Code known as CALGreen, requires that new projects increase the number of EV charging spaces to help ensure that EV drivers have a spot to plug in, particularly in new multifamily buildings. The two codes build upon existing City codes and advancement in the 2022 California Energy Code and CALGreen to encourage all-electric buildings and increase EV charging access, respectively. Both concepts were initially adopted as part of Santa Monica's Climate Action & Adaptation Plan, which aims to reduce the City's carbon emissions by 80% by 2030.

Buildings account for over 30% of the City's carbon emissions, primarily from burning natural gas for space and water heating. Most buildings in Santa Monica receive 100% clean power through the Clean Power Alliance, which makes all-electric buildings even more sustainable. Building electrification refers to the substitution of traditional gas appliances (furnaces, water heaters, cooking ranges, dryers), with clean, safe, and efficient electric alternatives such as heat pump hot water heaters and induction cooktops.

The new requirements apply to new buildings only, but the City offers rebates to support the switch to electric appliances and to add EV chargers in existing buildings through the Electrify Santa Monica Rebate Program. Additional funding is available through the Inflation Reduction Act. Visit [rewiringamerica.org/app/ira-calculator](https://rewiringamerica.org/app/ira-calculator) to determine funding eligibility. For more information, use this QR code.



# NEW BUSINESSES AND INVESTMENTS IN THE DOWNTOWN

**NOTE: An earlier version of this article included incorrect information about the restaurant tenant of 210 Wilshire Boulevard. The article below has been updated for accuracy.**

**T**he City of Santa Monica will soon welcome an assortment of exciting new businesses Downtown. As Santa Monica continues to navigate its economic recovery following the impacts of the pandemic, these new investments indicate positive business activity for the local workforce and Santa Monica's future. Projects planned for the area include innovative and mixed-use developments across retail, dining and hospitality industries.

Here are 10 new businesses we're excited about:

- Two new restaurants will soon join Blue Bottle Coffee in the building located on the northeast corner of 4th Street and Santa Monica Boulevard: **Mixt**, a salad-based, fast-casual restaurant will occupy the corner space of the building at 401 Santa Monica Blvd. and **Impasta**, a plant-based pizza and pasta restaurant will take a space between Mixt and Blue Bottle.
- **Gold's Gym** — The fitness center makes a triumphant return to Santa Monica in 2023 with plans for a 45,000 square-foot flagship location spread over three floors. The interior design will be reminiscent of Gold's storied epicenter of the bodybuilding world, featuring the famous green wall from *The Mecca* just a couple miles down the road in Venice Beach plus state-of-the-art weight machines and equipment.
- **McConnell's Fine Ice Creams** — The Santa Barbara-based ice cream shop opened a Santa Monica location at 1456 3rd Street Promenade in the former Somi Somi space. This 70 year-old, 3rd generation, family-run startup has a sweet legacy of having the creamiest, cleanest ice cream in the business.
- **The Georgian Hotel** — Located at 1415 Ocean Avenue, the 84-room, eight-story hotel is set to relaunch in January 2023. The top-to-bottom renovation, by Ace Hotel DTLA developers BLVD Hospitality, restores much of the building's historical Art Deco grandeur, reviving the property's lower-level restaurant and adding a gym, a shared space for guests called The Library and two meeting and private dining room spaces.
- **Vons at 710 Broadway** — Related California has plans for a new Vons grocery store to be located within a mixed-use development on the southwest corner of Broadway and Lincoln Boulevard. The project features 280 new multi-family homes, 84 of which will be affordable



residences, above 99,000 square feet of ground-floor commercial space which will house an updated Vons grocery store and gym. The project is slated to break ground in early 2023 and be completed in early 2026.

- **Frank Gehry Ocean Avenue Project** — Santa Monica City Council approved plans for a mixed-use, LEED Platinum-certified project at the northeast corner of Santa Monica Boulevard and Ocean Avenue, designed by world-renowned architect and Santa Monica resident Frank Gehry. The project includes a hotel, commercial space, residential units including rent-controlled and affordable housing, and a museum, plus a public rooftop deck, interlaced by pedestrian *paseos* that are also open to the public.
- **HQ Gastropub** — The restaurant will open a third location at 1360 3rd Street Promenade, featuring a multi-level space with a rooftop dining deck overlooking the Promenade.
- **ModelLand** — Tyra Banks opened the long-awaited luxurious immersive experience, ModelLand, at Santa Monica Place in September 2022. In this model-for-a-day experience, guests enter eight unique rooms, and experience interactive posing lessons, make-up tutorials, runway moments, ice cream tastings, and so much more.

In the past year, the City of Santa Monica has approved over 750 new business permits across multiple industries. For a complete roundup of everything that's continuing to shape the City's vibrant local economy, use the QR code.



# TAKE PART IN THE REFRAME: CITY HALL MURAL PROJECT



Lobby of City Hall featuring "History of Santa Monica and the Bay District," 1939-41 by Stanton Macdonald-Wright

**T**he City recently launched Acknowledge and Reframe Together (Reframe), a public art and community engagement initiative that centers community voices, and especially the voices and experiences of communities of color, in dialogue about representation in civic spaces.

The current Reframe project will focus on the Stanton Macdonald-Wright mural titled *History of Santa Monica and the Bay District*, which is

integrated into the lobby of the landmarked City Hall building. It reflects attitudes and assumptions of an artist and City leadership of early 20th century Santa Monica. In the context of today's values and perspectives, the mural invites closer examination.

The community is invited to learn about and help shape future priorities and actions for the City Hall Mural and lobby through a process that includes conversations, creativity, and art, leading to stories that more accurately reflect the diverse experiences and histories of Santa Monica. This winter, please join in a series of programs that illuminate the First Peoples of this region and the complex histories depicted in — or missing from — the City Hall Mural and engage in learning and discussion on topics of public art, local history, civic representation and belonging.

Last year, City Council directed staff to implement a project that engages and educates the community and results in the addition of artwork within the lobby to create a more inclusive and complete story of our City's history and vision for the future, with the aim of advancing the City's commitment to equity, justice and respect for all. Once the community engagement work is complete, the City will engage an artist to recontextualize the Mural through the addition of new artwork that does not whitewash the past but rather celebrates the diverse history of Santa Monica. This work is anticipated to commence in summer 2023. To learn more, and get involved in this evolving conversation use this QR code to go to the Reframe website.



# SANTA MONICA ACTIVE AGING PROGRAM LAUNCHES!

**T**he City of Santa Monica recently launched a pilot program to help adults aged 65+ use active transportation options to get around the community. The pilot program, which runs through June 2023, aims to improve the mobility, safety, and health of older adults by helping them walk, bike, and take transit more often.

Program resources and upcoming events just for older adults are available at [santamonica.gov/programs/active-aging](https://santamonica.gov/programs/active-aging). Throughout the pilot, older Santa Monicans can explore their transportation options and find new ways to get around with fun social events, including:

- Transportation workshops and events, including educational classes, group walking and biking outings, and drop-in events where you can ask City staff questions about the program or transportation in general.

- Direct support including one-on-one support through phone, email, and outreach to older adults at key destinations like housing facilities and libraries.
- Program communications including a new online senior transportation information hub, regular program updates delivered to your email or door, and general program promotion.



**We look forward to seeing you at one of our upcoming events!**

# INTRODUCING NEW EQUITY MANAGER PAOLO VELASCO

**T**o the people and communities of Santa Monica, I am honored and excited to serve as the City's first Equity and Inclusion Manager. Since starting in mid-September, I am grateful for the warm welcomes I have received from my fellow City staff members, City Council members, and so many others within the larger Santa Monica community. I look forward to meeting and partnering with many more members of the community as I settle into my new role.

Ruth Bader Ginsburg once stated, "Fight for the things that you care about, but do it in a way that will lead others to join you." Prior to coming to the City, I worked for more than two decades in the field of education, because I believe that we can achieve the critical changes needed in our society by bringing together diverse communities and engaging in the difficult yet inspiring work of collaboration and coalition building. In my most recent role as Director of the UCLA Bruin Resource Center, I taught academic courses on intergroup relations, established centers to support veterans and transfer students, developed programs to provide resources for foster youth and homeless youth, parenting students, and undocumented students, and contributed to many other efforts to foster respect and a sense of belonging within the campus community.

In the short time I have been with the City, it is clear that Santa Monica is an incredibly active and engaged community that embraces diversity, equity, and inclusion. It is impressive to see the ways in which the City comes together to celebrate its diverse communities such as the cultural celebrations for Black History Month and LGBTQIA+ Pride Month. I also know that in recent years, the City has made meaningful efforts to address systemic barriers to equity and the legacy of racism within the City's past such as the opening of the Historic Belmar Park. I am very excited to join a community that reflects my own professional and personal values and goal, and I hope to work with all of you to ensure that every member of this wonderful City feels like they belong and can thrive.



*Paolo Velasco (he/him)  
Equity and Inclusion Manager*

## WE ARE SANTA MONICA FUND FOCUSES ON FOOD INSECURITY THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

**I**n the early weeks of the COVID-19 pandemic, community members and businesses reached out to the City of Santa Monica eager to share funds and supplies with those in need. In response, the City partnered with the California Community Foundation to establish the We Are Santa Monica Fund to receive these donations and offer urgent relief to those most in need. During a time of great uncertainty, our friends and neighbors stepped up and supported the Santa Monica community tremendously. Thank you to those who have donated to the Fund and contributed to this collaborative effort.



As our community looks to the future, the We Are Santa Monica Fund will be a continuing resource for a vibrant, resilient, and equitable city where everyone can thrive. The Fund's Advisory Board is excited to continue leveraging our community's collective philanthropy to help meet Santa Monica's greatest needs, including a distinct focus on addressing food insecurity this holiday season – an issue experienced by approximately 16% of Santa Monicans.

The Fund has had a tremendous community impact so far. Over \$1.6 million has been donated by local individuals and businesses and the Fund has disbursed \$1 million in grants to more than 70 organizations, including 40 small business grants facilitated by the City's non-profit partner LISC, as well as the following notable contributions:

- \$370,000 went toward the distribution of free, nourishing meals and groceries to individuals and families experiencing food insecurity by supporting the Westside Food Bank, establishing the Virginia Avenue Park Emergency Food Pantry, and contributing to Santa Monica College Foundation's annual Giving Thanks(giving) event
- \$25,000 supported the Cayton Children's Museum's Free Admission and Equity Initiative that reduced barriers to play for local residents
- \$20,000 was granted to Social & Emotional Wellness Initiative to bring mental health services, case management, and crisis intervention to youth through a partnership with SMMUSD, and
- \$400,000 community-initiated donation to restore the Police Cadet Program was facilitated by the Fund to provide college-aged students with unique experience and preparation for careers in public safety.

Make a donation today and help us respond to ongoing challenges faced by our community. Those interested in donating to the We Are Santa Monica Fund are encouraged to visit [santamonica.gov/programs/we-are-santa-monica](https://santamonica.gov/programs/we-are-santa-monica) for additional information.

## WINTER AT THE ANNENBERG COMMUNITY BEACH HOUSE

**D**id you know the Annenberg Community Beach House has great programs year-round? See what's happening this winter.

### ANNUAL POLAR BEAR SWIM

Sunday, December 18, 2022, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.  
\$10/adult, \$5/adult age 60+, \$4/youth ages 1-17.

Kick off the holiday season in a bold, refreshing, and fun way at the Polar Bear Swim! The youngest Polar Bears plunge first, followed by the rest of the crowd. Intrepid Polar Bears can do the 300-yard swim around a buoy. After the ocean swim, warm up in the heated pool, enjoy a hot chocolate, and grab a photo with our very own polar bear mascot. Whether your toes get wet, you round the buoy, or you're just there for the hot chocolate, this event will get your blood pumping and skin tingling.

### BEACH WALKS ARE BACK!

Beach Walks are presented in partnership with Nature Nexus Institute, LA Audubon, and Santa Monica Audubon. Events are best suited for adults, though all ages are welcome.

#### Walk & Sketch

Sunday, December 11, 2022, 9 a.m. – 11 a.m.  
Free, RSVPs requested

Bring your sense of wonder and take to the sands to sketch for a peaceful morning on the beautiful coastline. Binoculars, drawing boards, pencils, and newsprint provided, or bring your own easy-to-carry sketching tools

#### Snowy Plover Beach Walk

Sunday, February 26, 2023, 9 a.m. – 10 a.m., possibly a bit longer  
Free, RSVPs requested

Revel in a guided walk to explore the habitat and life cycle of the small Snowy Plovers that make this stretch of beach their winter home. Binoculars provided or bring your own!

To register for events and for more information on all the Beach House has to offer, visit [annenbergbeachhouse.com](https://annenbergbeachhouse.com), sign up for the newsletter, and follow us on social media: Facebook @AnnenbergBeachHouse, Instagram @AnnenbergCommunityBeachHouse, and Twitter @SMBeachHouse. Two beach wheelchairs will be available for these events. To reserve, contact (310) 458-4904 or [beach.house@santamonica.gov](mailto:beach.house@santamonica.gov). All programs check in at Guest Services.



The Annenberg Community Beach House at Santa Monica State Beach is operated by the City of Santa Monica. The Beach House is made possible by a generous gift from the Annenberg Foundation, at the direction of Wallis Annenberg, and in partnership with the City of Santa Monica and California State Parks. Additional funding was provided by the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## STREET SWEEPING AND TRASH/RECYCLING COLLECTION

There will be **no** street sweeping and street sweeping enforcement **after 11 a.m.** on the following dates: **December 23 and 30, 2022**. There will be **no** street sweeping and street sweeping enforcement, and residential trash/recycling collection will be **delayed for one day** on the following dates: **December 26, 2022; January 2 and 16, 2023; and February 20, 2023.**

## PROTECTING OUR TREES

Trees provide our community many benefits, and those on public property, such as in the parkways in front of homes and businesses, are protected under the Santa Monica Municipal Code (Chapter 7.40 Tree Code). No person shall prune, remove, plant, or interfere with any tree on public property without first obtaining a permit authorizing such work. To start the permit process, please submit a 311 request.

## SAVE THE DATE: SANTA MONICA HOMELESS COUNT IS WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25, 2023

The City of Santa Monica Homeless Count is an annual census of people experiencing homelessness and is conducted as part of the Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count. We need your help to ensure we can cover every area of the City. For more information, visit: [santamonica.gov/topic-explainers/homelessness](http://santamonica.gov/topic-explainers/homelessness).

## IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING

**REMINDER:** The best way to report life and safety emergencies like crimes in progress, active fires, and medical emergencies where you need police, firefighters, or an ambulance is **9-1-1**. To report non-emergencies like suspicious activity or crimes that occurred in the past, call the Non-Emergency line at **(310) 458-8491**. The Police and Fire Department's social media are not monitored 24/7, so posting about active emergencies, public safety violations or concerns to Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, or Nextdoor is not the right place to notify public safety personnel. For questions on SMPD Patrol Operations, contact *Captain Candice Cobarrubias* at **(310) 458-8445** or [Candice.Cobarrubias@santamonica.gov](mailto:Candice.Cobarrubias@santamonica.gov). For questions about Dispatch, contact [OEM@santamonica.gov](mailto:OEM@santamonica.gov).

## IS IT TIME FOR YOUR COVID-19 BOOSTER?

The holidays are here and it's the perfect time to make sure you have updated protection against COVID-19. New boosters from Pfizer and Moderna are available and offer increased protection against recent COVID-19 variants. Schedule your COVID-19 vaccine or booster at [vaccines.gov](http://vaccines.gov).

## PASSPORT SERVICES ARE BACK AT CITY HALL

The City Clerk's Office is once again accepting passport applications. Scan the QR code to book an appointment.



# RECYCLING, COMPOST, OR TRASH: A GUIDE TO WHAT GOES IN WHAT BIN

**O**n January 1, 2022, the City implemented a new law requiring all people living and working in Santa Monica to recycle organics (i.e. formerly living organisms). The City's zero waste goal is to reduce landfill disposal to 1.1 pounds per person per day (PPD) by 2030. Currently, we are at 3.5 PPD. By moving recyclable materials out of the black landfill trash containers and into the blue and green containers, more recyclables will get a second life, and we can get closer to that goal.



Non-organics recycling is already required, and every property should have access to three containers: **black for landfilled trash**, **blue for non-organics recyclables**, and **green for organics**. The Resource, Recovery and Recycling (RRR) Division is delivering green organics containers to all properties without one, starting with the Ocean Park and Sunset Park areas and moving south to north through the rest of the neighborhoods.

Knowing what material goes in which container can be confusing, especially as information changes. Manufacturers also label products *Biodegradable*, *Compostable*, or *Recyclable* without knowing if materials can be recycled locally. Mixing non-recyclable items in the blue and green containers causes contamination, and it might lead to otherwise recyclable materials being sent to the landfill so please use this list as a guide.

## BULKY ITEMS

Please help keep Santa Monica clean and safe by not engaging in illegal dumping. Your neighbors will thank you! Consider donating unused items instead of discarding them. Each household gets three annual complimentary pick-ups by contacting **3-1-1** or [311@santamonica.gov](mailto:311@santamonica.gov).

## HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Request a complimentary door-to-door collection appointment by scanning this QR code, or call **(800) 714-1195**.

For more information, visit [santamonica.gov](http://santamonica.gov), keyword **recycling**.



## GREEN CONTAINER – ORGANICS (I.E. IF IT WAS ONCE ALIVE)

### ✓ YES

- Food scraps
- Yard cuttings
- Food-soiled paper (paper towels/napkins; paper plates/bowls; paper straws; uncoated paper takeout containers)
- Nature fiber or 100% wood/bamboo service ware and cutlery (bamboo forks and knives, disposable chopsticks, wooden coffee stirrers)
- Use paper bags or newspaper, or freeze/refrigerate food scraps until collection day
- Layer food scraps with landscape cuttings to absorb moisture and odor

### ✗ NO

- Fruit and vegetable stickers or twist ties
- Plastic food containers
- Pet waste or diapers
- Bioplastics that claimed to be "compostable at a commercial facility"



## BLUE CONTAINER – NON-ORGANICS RECYCLABLES

### ✓ YES

- Clean and dry metal cans and aluminum cans
- Clean aluminum foil
- Clean and dry glass bottles/containers and plastic bottles/containers with the recycling numbers 1, 2, or 5
- Paper
- Flattened cardboard boxes
- If you collect recyclables in a plastic bag, dump contents in the blue container; reuse the bag or put in trash

### ✗ NO

- Liquids or food residue
- Plastic bags or thin plastic wrappings
- Styrofoam, bubble wraps, or packaging materials
- "Wishcycling" of items not listed in the **YES** list



## BLACK CONTAINER – LANDFILLED TRASH

### ✓ YES

- All items that are not listed in the **YES** lists above

### ✗ NO

- Organics (recycle in green container)
- Non-organics recyclables (recycle in blue container)



## ANNUAL HOLIDAY TREE RECYCLING

The RRR Division will collect and recycle holiday trees from **December 26, 2022, through January 31, 2023**, at no additional charge. Place your tree curbside or in the alley next to your regular trash containers for collection. There's no need to call 311 for pickup – it will be collected automatically. Please do not drop

off trees in our local parks or place them in trash containers, and please remember to remove all decorations, tinsel, and stands. The holiday season is a very busy time for the RRR essential workers, and they will collect your tree as fast as they can. Thank you for your patience!



# CELEBRATE MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY WITH CIVIL RIGHTS ICON DR. BENJAMIN F. CHAVIS, JR.

**J**oin the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Westside Coalition for the 38th annual celebration of MLK, Jr. Day on **Monday, January 16, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. at John Adams Middle School.** The theme for 2023 is: When you stand up for justice, you can never fail. The festivities will include inspirational remarks, music, and dance, and the presentation of Education and Community Light Awards.

The Coalition is delighted to welcome Dr. Benjamin F. Chavis, Jr., a long-standing civil rights leader, as the keynote speaker. As a young man, Dr. Chavis was a youth coordinator and Southern Christian Leadership Conference assistant to Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Now, Dr. Chavis is an author, journalist, environmentalist, United Church of Christ ordained minister, and global entrepreneur, and is currently President and CEO of the National Newspaper Publishers Association, which advocates for publishers of the nation's black newspapers.



Photo Credit: Trikosko, Marion S, photographer. Martin Luther King press conference/ MST., 1964. Photograph. [loc.gov/item/2003688129](https://loc.gov/item/2003688129).

## EVENT INFORMATION

### REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. NATIONAL HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

January 16, 2023, from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

John Adams Middle School Performing Arts Center (2425 16th St.)  
Masks are required.

[mlkjrwestside.org](http://mlkjrwestside.org)

After the celebration, attendees are encouraged to visit the **Community Involvement Fair** from **10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.** for information and conversation with representatives from a variety of community organizations. More information: [involvementfair@gmail.com](mailto:involvementfair@gmail.com).

Please also check out these other Santa Monica events honoring Dr. King during the extended Weekend of Celebrations:

### UNFINISHED WORK FEATURING YOUNG ORATORS

Advancing Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Legacy of Racial Equity

**Thursday, January 12, 2023, 6 p.m.**

New Roads School (3131 Olympic Blvd.)

[newroads.org/MLK](http://newroads.org/MLK)

### MLK FREEDOM CELEBRATION VIA ZOOM

Sponsored by the Santa Monica Area Interfaith Council

**Friday, January 14, 2023, 8 a.m. to 9 a.m.**

[minister@ciop4justice.org](mailto:minister@ciop4justice.org)

### SANTA MONICA SYMPHONY ANNUAL REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. CONCERT

Gary Pratt, Guest Conductor

**Saturday, January 14, 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.**

John Adams Middle School Performing Arts Center (2425 16th St.)

[smsymphony.org](http://smsymphony.org)

For updates and more information, visit: [mlkjrwestside.org](http://mlkjrwestside.org); Facebook [@mlkwestsidecoalition](https://www.facebook.com/mlkwestsidecoalition); Instagram [@MLKWestside](https://www.instagram.com/MLKWestside); Twitter [@WestsideMLK](https://twitter.com/WestsideMLK).

The 2023 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration is presented by the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Westside Coalition and sponsored by the City of Santa Monica, Santa Monica College Associates, Santa Monica College, Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District, SGI-USA, Rand Corporation, Santa Monica Bay Area Human Relations Council as well as a variety of other organizations and individuals.



**CHECK OUT THE BUY LOCAL SANTA MONICA HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE 2022 FOR GREAT GIFT IDEAS YOU CAN FIND RIGHT HERE IN SANTA MONICA.**

**VISIT OUR INSTAGRAM @BUYLOCALSM**

**OR SCAN THE QR CODE**



## EXTRA BEDROOM IS BACK

**November 14, 2022 - January 30, 2023**

Enjoy discounted hotel rates exclusively for Santa Monica residents. Book an "extra bedroom" for visiting family and friends over the holidays or enjoy a staycation of your own!





[santamonica.com/extra-bedroom](http://santamonica.com/extra-bedroom)

## PUBLIC MEETINGS

### City Council Meetings

December 6 at 6:00 p.m., and December 13, January 10, January 24, February 14 and February 28 at 5:30 p.m.

### Boards, Commissions, and Task Forces

This list includes all scheduled meetings as of our printing deadline. Times, locations, and meeting dates may change. For the latest updates and information regarding all Boards, Commissions, and Task Forces, or call (310) 458-8211 or go to [smgov.net/boards](http://smgov.net/boards).

### Airport Commission

January 23 and February 27 at 7 p.m.

### Architectural Review Board

December 19, January 17, and February 21 at 7 p.m.

### Arts Commission

December 19 and February 20 at 6:30 p.m.

### Clean Beaches & Ocean Committee

February 8 at 6:30 p.m.

### Disabilities Commission

December 5, January 2, and February 6 at 6:30 p.m.

### Housing Commission

December 1, January 5, and February 2 at 6 p.m.

### Landmarks Commission

January 9 at 7 p.m.

### Library Board

January 12 and February 9 at 6 p.m.

### Personnel Board

December 7, January 26, and February 23 at 4:30 p.m.

### Planning Commission

December 7, December 21, January 4, January 18, February 1, and February 15 at 5:30 p.m.

### Public Safety Reform and Oversight Commission

December 8, January 12, and February 9 at 5:30 p.m.

### Recreation and Parks Commission

December 15, January 19, and February 16 at 7 p.m.

### Rent Control Board

December 8, January 12, and February 9 at 7 p.m.

### Sustainability, Environmental Justice, and the Environment

December 19, January 23, and February 27 at 7 p.m.

### Urban Task Force

January 25 at 6:30 p.m.

### City Facility Information

All City facilities are open, and we are here to serve you! For the latest hours and information, visit [santamonica.gov/places](http://santamonica.gov/places) or call 3-1-1 to speak with a City Hall operator.

Seascape is a publication of the City of Santa Monica, designed to inform the community about City programs and services. Info is up-to-date as of the 11/10 printing deadline. Please email comments to [manager@santamonica.gov](mailto:manager@santamonica.gov) or mail to:

Seascape  
City of Santa Monica  
1685 Main Street, Room 209  
Santa Monica, CA 90401

Seascape is printed on recycled paper. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, Seascape is available in alternate formats by calling the City Manager's Office at (310) 458-8301 (TDD/TTY (310) 917-6626).